

EAST GOSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th July 2022 at 6.30pm in the East Goscote Village Hall.

Present: Cllr D Cannon (Chair) Cllr R Axon
 Cllr S Mousley Cllr N Shivers
 Mrs R Fazackerley Mrs A Harris

Cllr J Poland

Mrs L Pizer (Clerk) Mrs C Turlington (Admin)

22/061 **Co-option of New Members**

The Chair asked both Mrs Fazackerley and Mrs Harris if they had any questions. A secret ballot was undertaken. Councillor Fazackerley and Councillor Harris were co-opted unanimously and signed the declarations of office. The registers of interest are to be returned to the office within 28 days and also both new Councillors were asked to create a "Cllr" email address and inform the Clerk of this.

22/062 **Matters arising from the Public (Meeting Adjourned)**

None present.

22/063 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr V Oakes, Cllr S Gerrard, Cllr L Needham, Cllr Tate, Police.

22/064 **To report any declarations of interest:** Cllr Cannon re the Long Furrow Magazine, Library and Greener Goscote; Cllr Shivers regarding the Village Hall.

22/065 **To confirm the minutes of the last full council meetings held on 8th June 2022**

The minutes of the meetings held on 8th June were agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

22/066 **Matters arising from the Minutes**

- 21/205 – Still waiting for dates from Cllr Axon and Mousley – the Clerk will resend the available dates to Cllrs Axon, Mousley, Fazackerley and Harris.
- 22/009 – The Camera enforcement vehicle has been present outside Broomfield Primary School – Cllr Poland will request a report regarding this.
- 22/012 – TSB Cheque Signatories – this is still to be completed.
- 22/036 – The Staffing Committee Minutes have been received.
- 22/038 – The Clerk did email the police however we were informed that they could not attend our meeting.
- 22/041 – Greener Goscote AGM – no date as of yet.
- 22/041 – Schools speeding and congestion – Cllr Needham advised that she wrote to the school but did not receive a response.
- 22/043 – Hedgehog Highway Project – Cllr Cannon has investigated this but feels a different approach is needed, and he will complete a proposal form for a future agenda.
- 22/043 – A letter has been sent to Smurfit-kappa requesting that they repair the damage to the wall – no reply yet. The barrier is working well.
- 22/051 – Code of Conduct training on 21st July will be attended by Cllrs: Shivers, Cannon, Mousley, Fazackerley, Tate and Harris.
- 22/053 – A temporary barrier has been installed at the hedge on Lilac Way

22/067 **Matters arising from the Police**

The police were absent from the meeting and no report has been received.

22/068

County Councillor's Report

Cllr Poland emailed all Councillors with a written report prior to the meeting. Topics covered were:

- Surging inflation has forced Leicestershire County Council to consider extra steps to save millions of pounds. With inflation already at nine per cent - and expected to pass 11 per cent by October – the costs of providing day-to-day council services, as well a crucial long-term major infrastructure projects to accommodate a growing county population, have surged. Leicestershire, which is the worst funded county council, is continuing to lobby MPs and press the Government for a fairer way of funding local authorities but has warned it cannot afford to wait for reforms. Previously the council calculated there would be a be an £8 million gap between what it needs to spend and its income next year but now says inflation, and other pressures, have widened that to around £20 million. By 2025/26 the budget gap is predicted to increase from £40 million to £70 million unless further action is taken.
- Adults in Leicestershire looking to improve their numeracy skills and businesses looking to upskill their workforces are set to benefit from a £3 million project which will allow Leicestershire County Council to deliver hundreds of free courses over the next three years. Set to launch this autumn, it will offer adults who do not already have a GCSE grade C/4 or higher in maths or equivalent, and need to improve their numeracy, free flexible courses that fit around their lives. Courses will be available across Leicestershire in person or online, at work or at home, and either on a part time or intensive basis to anyone who fits the criteria - but there will be a particular focus on supporting hard to reach learners and those who may not traditionally engage with adult learning courses.
- Members Highways Fund – due to issues with quotes for another parish there has been a delay, but this should be clarified shortly allowing funds for other areas such as East Goscote.

22/069

Borough Councillor's Report

No report received, although it was noted that many issues are circulated via the Clerk.

22/070

Reports from Reps on other Committees

VHMC – The AGM was held on 14th June.

The VHMC Chairman continues to be Cllr Shivers. Summer works have started, floor will be scrubbed and polished. Next meeting is 29th September.

LONG FURROW –. The deadline for Articles was July 1st and the next edition is currently with design and print. The Circus and Jubilee events, and Cllr Axon's report, have been included.

PAV & PLAYING FIELD – Playground checks for June/July were carried out by Cllr Shivers and Cllr Oakes.

Playquest have replied regarding the basket swing and suggested that we reinstall the basket swing following the installation of the new pole. Our professional playground check states that we should ensure that the installation and fixings are installed to the manufacturer's specification.

RESOLVED that the Clerk request's the manufacturer's specification and ensure it is fitted accordingly. The Clerk will also ask Playquest if there is another basket swing fitted in the local area for us to view the amount of lateral movement. The Basket Swing will be left off for now.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – Cllr Mousley advised there was nothing new to report.

TREES – Cllr Axon provided a report. He met with a representative from LCC on 7th

July. Trees along the Headland/Melton Road and a Norway Maple tree on Broome Lane are being monitored. Cllr Shivers mentioned that some branches on the trees on the Headland are encroaching on the Street lamp, Cllr Axon will ask LCC to have a look.

LCC LIAISON REPORT – Cllr Cannon was unable to attend this event. The link to the recording of the main session is available in this week’s LRALC Round Robin.

CIRCUS FEEDBACK AND 2023 DATE – Those Councillors who attended the Circus felt it was an excellent event for the village. For 2023 we have been offered Sunday 15th – Thursday 19th October. It was RESOLVED to proceed with these dates under the provision that they advise how they intend to protect the ground so as the pitches are acceptable for use on the Sunday. The Clerk will also clarify if the show is the same as this year or a new show.

CLIMATE CHANGE – A written report was circulated to Cllrs, the SLT project has now ended – A community Natural Capital Map has been produced. 24/35 Queens Canopy trees are now being cared for.

GREENER GOSCOTE – The group felt that the Queens Platinum Festival was successful in many ways from their perspective. General litter picking, pruning, and tidying continues around the village.

EMERGENCY RESILIENCE – Cllr Cannon is due to call a meeting of those who used to be part of this working party.

SPEEDWATCH – Cllr Needham (Scheme Co-Ordinator) has completed the relevant forms to register our interest for this year’s scheme.

PROSPERITY FUND APPLICATION – Unfortunately, we have not been successful in our bid to apply for funds to refurbish our pavilion. The Clerk will request details of how the £4 million is being allocated.

COMMUNITY HOUSING FEEDBACK – East Midlands Housing met in the village hall on Monday 11th July. There were a good number of attendees, including Cllrs from Rearsby and Queniborough. This included a presentation on what might still be possible. Cllr Cannon will circulate notes and the representatives hope to meet again in September.

22/071

Proposed Accounts

Accounts to the sum of £5633.88 were accepted by the Council. The bank reconciliation and relevant statements were checked along with the invoices and signed off by the Chair and Vice-Chair. August accounts will be approved by 3 members of the Finance Committee and ratified in September as we have no August meeting.

22/072

Correspondence

A list of correspondence received was given out to all Councillors present:
Overhanging trees – Tailors Link – Reported to LCC
Planning enforcement – resident complaint – enforcement site visit and new application
Public Spaces Protection Order – Dog Control – review
Planning enforcement – removal of Redrow sign
Mowing contractor – increase in dog fouling being left on the grass – RESOLVED to request the dog / street warden to visit
Letter to Smurfit-kappa re damage to garage wall

22/073

Planning Matters

Local plan hearings feedback – Cllr Cannon and Cllr Needham attending the first few days of the hearings. After the close of “Matter 3” it has been announced that the hearings have now been adjourned until a later date. Charnwood Council have confirmed

“in principle” that it would be willing to accommodate Charnwood’s apportionment of Leicester’s unmet Housing need. The plan will therefore need to be reviewed.

Redrow Meeting – The Clerk confirmed that the meeting will be held on 21st July at 2pm in the Village Hall.

P/22/0900/2 – 15 Hunstmans Dale – No objections

P/22/0981/2 – 4 Fletchers Way – This was previously refused and looking at the officers report the only small change is the reduction in size of the garage – Cllrs to view and inform the Clerk of decision by 21st July for response.

P/22/0847/2 – 29 Lilac Way – Cllrs to view and inform the Clerk of decision by 21st July for response.

22/074

Budget Update

The spreadsheet containing spending v budget was issued for April to June. The Clerk advised that the impact of inflation is not a concern at present.

22/075

Standing Order recommendations

It was RESOLVED to defer this until September. The Admin Assistant has done an excellent job in putting a new document together, however, the Clerk would like to look at the changes in more detail.

22/076

Christmas Events

a) To consider funding the Santa event – The Library have confirmed that the Church may hold an event on December 9th although this is not certain. We would be looking for a new “Santa” this year. RESOLVED to investigate ‘Santa’ options and revisit in September for further discussion.

b) Event for the elderly – afternoon tea

The Clerk confirmed that she had sought advice from LRALC who confirmed that under Class 9 uses of S137 (Social welfare) he felt that the scheme would fall under this category and therefore the Parish Council could manage its own scheme.

RESOLVED to continue with the scheme this year. Cllrs Fazackerley and Harris agreed to project manage this. The date was confirmed as Saturday 10th December 1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m. A £500 budget has been agreed. The Clerk confirmed that she would include this event at each future council meeting for updates on progress.

c) To consider the quote for LED coloured lights to the apex of the Village Hall.

One quote has been received to remove 38 Halogen lamps and replace with 4-watt LED lamps at a cost of £280.20.

Byrite of Syston have confirmed that to supply only these bulbs the cost would be £154.00.

RESOLVED to proceed with Byrite and that the Clerk either purchase a small quantity to test or the full amount if they can be returned if unsuitable. The Council display will be outside the Village Hall, lighting up the tree/hall apex as per previous years.

Cllr Mousley advised that he has been speaking with his fellow shopkeepers and hopes to raise funds for lighting up the shopping precinct. He has also been in discussions with the Plough to install lights to the tree at the front of the Plough.

22/077

Community infrastructure – Parish Priorities.

All Councillors had received an email from Charnwood BC asking for our feedback on parish priorities when considering contributions from developers, along with a review of their open spaces audit. Cllr Cannon agreed to take the lead on this and asked all Cllrs to inform him of any ideas. He will check that Cllr Needham has written requesting additional time to complete the form.

- 22/078 **Pavilion Goalstore – to consider quote**
We have received a quote to repair the existing concrete pillars (£100) or rebuild the 3 pillars (£300).
RESOLVED to repair the pillars for £100 but leave the brackets off.
- 22/079 **Office Alarm – to consider quotes**
Two quotes have been received amounting to 1) £403.60, 2) £565.96 including a panic button. Both will incur ongoing costs.
RESOLVED to proceed with quote 2 as we wish to get the alarm fitted in the summer as soon as possible.
- 22/080 **Professional Tree Survey**
The report has been received and circulated. Although more time is needed to read this in detail, the summary is that the established trees are doing well, however some of the newer trees are struggling.

The wording of the accompanying letter and possible responses were discussed. The Clerk reiterated that Standing Orders state all correspondence is to be sent by the Clerk. Cllr Cannon proposed that the Clerk make contact but requested his comments be taken into consideration.
- 22/081 **Lilac Way – Update to play area**
There have been further issues with weeds coming through the tarmac, and our Caretaker believes this could be from the trees to the other side of the play area.
Our surfacing contractor has been on site this week to look at the laying of the new surface. The Clerk confirmed that she has delayed the installation of the new safety surfacing.
Cllr Axon suggested treating and cutting the roots, although this would involve delaying the contractor for approximately 3 weeks. The contractor has advised they can install a membrane root guard at a cost of £90.
RESOLVED to proceed with the root guard and treatment. A maximum budget of £50 was agreed for the glyphosate treatment. Cllrs Axon and Shivers will meet the caretaker on site.
- 22/082 **To consider Updated policies: Lone Working and Recording of meetings**
The Clerk/Assistant have worked on the Lone Working and recording of meetings policies which were circulated for Councillor consideration. RESOLVED to adopt both the policies.
- 22/083 **Maintenance**
It was agreed to install poppies this year around Long Furrow and Ling Dale as we did last year.
Cllr Shivers reported glass on a footpath at the end of Squires Ride.
- 22/084 **Items approved for Expenditure**
LED Lights – £154
Goalstore – £100
Alarm – £565.96
Lilac Way – £90 + £50
- 22/085 **Urgent items by permission of the Chairman**
A Meeting with the Football managers on August 25th will be led by Cllrs Shivers and Cllr Needham
21st July – Code of conduct training and Redrow meeting
Next staffing meeting is planned for 30th August at 10.00 a.m.

Cllr Shivers asked if all the relevant documentation has been received from Sensory Sport for their fundraising day on 21st August. The Clerk is informed that this is being worked on and will chase up the necessary insurances/risk assessments.

Date of next Meeting: **Wednesday September 14th, 2022, at 6.30pm**

The Meeting closed at 9.50 pm

L Pizer/C Turlington
14th July 2022